

Message Text

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ACTION SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 AID-05 PPTE-00

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R 291405Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL MATAMOROS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 242

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO

AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO

AMCONSUL TIJUANA

AMCONSUL CD

AMCONSUL MONTERREY

AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA

AMCONSUL MAZATLAN

AMCONSUL MERIDA

UNCLAS MATAMOROS 0108

E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, SNAR

SUBJECT: DISTRIBUTION OF DRUG PAMPHLET

REF: STATE 237618 AND PREVIOUS (NOTAL)

1. PRINCIPAL OFFICER VISITED CHIEFS MEXICAN IMMIGRATION IN MATAMOROS AND REYNOSA, THE MAIN MEXICAN PORTS OF ENTRY LOCATED IN OUR CONSULAR DISTRICT. THE MATAMOROS' IMMIGRATION CHIEF, ALTHOUGH KNOWLEDGEABLE AND SYMPATHETIC OF DRUG PROBLEM, SAID MUST SEEK AUTHORIZATION HIS SUPERIORS IN MEXICO CITY BEFORE COMMITTING HIMSELF TO DISTRIBUTE DRUG PAMPHLET. HE INFORMED THAT FEW YOUNG AMERICANS APPLY FOR ENTRY DOCUMENTATION HERE.

2. CHIEF OF IMMIGRATION IN REYNOSA, HOWEVER, WILLING DISTRIBUTE 2,000 PAMPHLETS PER MONTH TO APPROPRIATE AMERICAN TOURISTS. THAT OFFICE ISSUES ABOUT 15,000 TOURIST CARDS PER MONTH TO TRAVELERS GOING INTO INTERIOR OF MEXICO. BEFORE WE DELIVER PAMPHLETS TO REYNOSA P.O. SUGGESTS TO AWAIT REACTION FROM CENTRAL OFFICE OF MEXICAN IMMIGRATION OFFICE.

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3. DIRECTOR OF STATE TRAVEL BUREAU IN MATAMOROS OFFERED TO DISTRIBUTE 1,000 PAMPHLETS THROUGH LOCAL HOTELS, SHOPS CATERING TO AMCITS, HANDICRAFTS MARKET. AFTER INITIAL DISTRIBUTION TRAVEL BUREAU DIRECTOR WILL ASSESS FURTHER REQUESTS FOR PAMPHLETS.

4. SANDBORN'S MEXICAN INSURANCE SERVICE WITH HEADQUARTERS AT MCALLEN, TEXAS, AND WITH 25 OFFICES FROM COAST TO COAST ALONG MEXICAN BORDER, SELLS APPROXIMATELY 125,000 AUTOMOBILE POLICIES PER YEAR TO AMCIT TOURISTS TRAVELING TO MEXICO. P.O. VISITED VICE PRESIDENT COLBERT GLENN WHO OFFERED COMPANY'S FULL COOPERATION WITH PROGRAM. THE COMPANY YEARLY MAILED OUT 100,000 A BOOKLET CONSISTING OF 32 PAGES AND ENTITLED "SANDBORN'S MEXICO TRAVEL-AID AND TRIP-PLANNER". MR. GLENN SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO INCORPORATE CONTENTS OF DRUG PAMPHLET IN A FORTHCOMING REVISED EDITION OF THEIR BOOKLET. A SAMPLE OF THIS PUBLICATION IS BEING AIRMAILED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY CONSULATE. IN PAGE 3 IS A LIST OF THE COMPANY'S OFFICES AND ADDRESSES. ALONGSIDE IN PEN AND INK MR. GLENN INSERTED THE NUMBER OF POLICIES ISSUED BY EACH BRANCH AND SUGGESTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT MAIL DIRECTLY TO EACH OFFICE THE DRUG PAMPHLETS IN QUANTITIES EQUIVALENT TO ABOUT ONE FIFTH OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF POLICIES ISSUED. MR. GLENN SUGGESTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT SEND A LETTER TO EACH OF THEIR BRANCHES BRIEFLY EXPLAINING THE PURPOSE OF THE PAMPHLET AND MENTIONING RECENT VISIT OF CONSUL ARENZ TO VICE PRESIDENT COLBERT GLENN IN MCALLEN, TEXAS WHO OFFERED COMPANY'S FULL COLLABORATION.

5. REGRETFULLY THE TROPICAL TIP-OF-TEXAS HOTEL MOTEL ASSOCIATION (BROWNSVILLE, HARLINGEN AND PADRE ISLAND) APPARENTLY WILL NOT ASSIST US WITH PROGRAM. P.O. VISITED MR. GENE ONASTAS MANAGER OF BROWNSVILLE'S LARGEST HOSTELERY, THE FORT BROWN HOTEL, AND INFLUENTIAL MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE HOTEL ASSN. AFTER READING DRUG PAMPHLET MR. ONASTAS FLATLY REFUSED TO ASSIST WITH ITS DISTRIBUTION SAYING THAT HE AND OTHER HOTEL OPERATORS ARE DEAD AGAINST ANY ADVERSE PUBLICITY OF MEXICO. THE HOTEL AND MOTELS IN THE TEXAS LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY LARGELY DERIVE THEIR INCOME FROM TRAVELERS INTENDING TO VISIT MEXICO. MR. ONASTAS PROMISED CONSUL TO PRESENT REQUEST TO UNCLASSIFIED

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THE BOARD WHEN IT HAS ITS NEXT MONTHLY MEETING ON OCTOBER 20 HOWEVER, AFTER HEARING MR. ONASTAS' STRONG VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT IT DOES NOT APPEAR THAT WE WILL RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM THE HOTEL ASSOCIATION.

6. SUPPOSING THAT WE DO RECEIVE STRONG SUPPORT FROM SOURCES MENTIONED ABOVE AND THAT WE WILL DISTRIBUTE THOUSANDS OF PAMPHLETS THROUGH THEM. STILL WE ARE NOT GETTING THE ME-

MESSAGE ACROSS TO THOSE AMCIT TOURISTS WHO:(A) OBTAIN MEXICAN
TOURIST CARDS AND AUTO INSURANCE WHERE THEY RESIDE BEFORE
MOTORING TO MEXICAN BORDER AN, (B) ENTER MEXICO BY AIR.
THE DEPARTMENT AND CONSULAR POSTS IN MEXICO HAVE NO HARD
STATISTICS SHOWING MODE OF TRAVEL BY AMCITS WHO HAVE BEEN
ARRESTED FOR DRUG VIOLATIONS. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO OBTAIN
SUCH DATA FROM AMCITS WHO ARE INCARCERATED AS A MEANS TO
COMPILE A COMPLETE PROFILE OF THE TYPICAL DRUG VIOLATOR.
WHEN SUCH PROFILE HAS BEEN MADE IT WOULD THEN BE POSSIBLE
TO CONCENTRATE MORE EFFECTIVELY AVAILABOR RESOURCES IN ORDER
TO MAXIMISE RESULTS IN REACHING POTENTIAL DRUG VIOLATORS.
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